

Middlesex Recreation Commission
1200 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex, NJ 08846
Commission Meeting Minutes for June 9, 2014

Chair Sherley Penrose opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Commission members present

Glenn Dickey
Cassius Kennick
Bob May
Libbye Nevitt
John Nicholson
Sherley Penrose
Rich Rutkowski

Members Absent:

John Nicholson

Also present:

Dina Fornataro-Healey, Recreation Director
Mike Girvan, Assist. Recreation Director
Sean Kaplan, Council President
Steve Greco, Council Liaison

Libbye Nevitt made a motion to accept May 2014 minutes with a second by Cassius Kennick and approved by all members present.

1. Council President Kaplan gave an overview of what to expect for the Recreation Budget from the governing body. The recreation budget has been substantial reduced requiring an increase in all sports registration fees. The largest reduction in the budget was for referees/umpires. Councilman Kaplan stated that all programs need to be self-sustaining. Some suggestions were given on how to raise fees without deterring registration including increasing registration fee, not compensating volunteers for being fingerprinted and eliminating trophies the older children.

Public Session:

No one present.

Directors Report

- Basketball spring clinic ended on May 31st at MHS had 67 girls registered.
- Director advised commission of 15 teams and 165 children registered for Baseball/Softball. Photo day was on May 17th at Mauger School. Games will be over on June 21st.
- ArtTechSolutions will be running a theatre camp at Rec-center the week of August 11th.

- Men's softball has 8 teams registered to play. A reminder has been sent about no alcohol at the fields.
- Movie in the Park will be held on July 11th and August 8th.
- Pony Share will be holding pony camp in Mt. View Park the week of July 14th.
- Stranger Danger classes have been very successful. A class on June 4th couldn't be added. Another date will be chosen. Once date is confirmed, the 25 children on the waitlist will be notified.
- Summer Playground will run from June 23rd – August 1st. It has received approval from the BOE to use MHS, Hazelwood and Watchung School this year. Forms were sent home through the schools. Welcome letters have been sent to each staff person. Hazelwood has 40 children registered. MHS has 32 children registered and Watchung has 31 children registered thus far.
- Toddler programs have 43 children registered. Happy Camper Club, summer program, registration forms are available and is being offered the weeks of June 30th, July 7th, July 14th and July 21st.
- US Sports Institute will be holding sports camp in Mt. View Park the week of July 28th.
- Soccer forms have been e-blasted by the schools and forms will be sent to homes as well. Deadline to register is August 1st.

Councilmatic report

Overtime costs for wrestling matches at the high school have not been resolved.

Trust Account and Account details report

Motion to accept made by Cassius Kennick and seconded by Rich Rutkowski. Roll call was taken with all Commissioners approving.

Commission Committee reports - No reports

Board of Education Report - No representative

Correspondence -

1. An email was received on May 19th from Linda Johnson, JerseyGirls Animal Rescue, requesting a refund of park permit from May 17th. The email states when they arrived at Mountain View Park on May 17th the power wasn't turned on and the restrooms were out of order. Rich Rutkowski made a motion to refund JerseyGirls Animal Rescue the \$170 park permit for the power not being on and the restrooms being out of order, seconded by Bob May and a roll call was taken with all Commissioners in agreement.

Volunteer nomination – None

New Business

1. The Commission approved to repost the permanent part time Toddler Program Instructor position. Motion was made by Cassius Kennick seconded by Libbye Nevitt, roll call vote was taken, all in favor.

2. Policy Committee met on June 9th at 6pm. There are preliminary changes, amendments and additions to policy and will be discussed at the July 7th meeting

Old Business

2. DPW is working on a proposal regarding additional park fees when overtime is required. Council member Greco working on this item and proposed to Council member Schuller, Bob Teusch and Mike Girvan. Reviewing the regulations and fees for the use of Mt. View Park, permits are always required for use of the picnic areas for groups of 10 or more people and must be made at least 15 business days in advance. Fee schedule for usage of picnic areas vary due to the amount of the group, park maintenance, residents and non residents. At May's meeting, Rich Rutkowski made a motion to accept the permit requirements and fee schedule, seconded by John Nicholson and a roll call was taken with all Commissioners in agreement. In addition at May's meeting, a fee schedule was reviewed and will apply for the use of Mt. View Park non sponsored recreational or governing body sanctioned recreational activities. Cassius Kennick made a motion to accept the fee schedule for non sponsored recreational or governing body sanctioned recreational activities, seconded by Glenn Dickey and a roll call was taken with all Commissioners in agreement. Regulations and fees for the use of the park is to be sent to Green Acres and then to Council. All was approved by Green Acres.
3. Borough Attorney verbally recommended requiring fingerprinting every three years and all new volunteers to be fingerprinted and a background check conducted prior to being assignment as a volunteer. Waiting for this recommendation to be received in writing before adjusting our policy. Still waiting for Attorney's recommendation about extending the privilege of accepting or extending finger printing from or to other entities. Questioned was that when a report is requested, does an OPRA request form have to be completed to receive a copy of their approval/denial letter. Commission discussed not receiving fingerprint results from anywhere else but will allow results within 6 months of issuance by NJ State Police and if the individual is still employed by organization. Bob May made a motion to accept fingerprinting/background results of volunteers done by other entities within 6 months of issuance by NJ State Police and that the applicant is still employed by same entity which originally requested the fingerprinting/background check. This was seconded by Cassius Kennick and a roll call was taken with all Commissioners in agreement.

Seeing no other old or new business, Commissioner Penrose read a statement advising residents that the approved minutes will be available on the Boro Website within three working days of the meeting and the agenda for the next meeting will be posted on the Recreation Bulletin Board no later than 48 hours prior to the monthly meeting.

At 8:40 p.m., Commissioner Rich Rutkowski made a motion to adjourn seconded by Commissioner Glenn Dickey.

Next Recreation Commission meeting will be July 14, 2014, 7:30 pm at the Recreation Center.

Minutes submitted by
Linda Chicarelli, Rec-Commission Secretary